

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 125218  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
INRE-00 AID-05 PC-01 IC AE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
SCS-06 CA-01 OPR-02 SY-05 HA-05 ACDA-12 /121 R

DRAFTED BY STF-RKATES:LFS  
APPROVED BY STF-LDJUNIOR  
S/S-O- LFLEISCHER

-----000983 171519Z /53

O 171451Z MAY 78 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0323  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT NORFOLK IMMEDIATE  
CINCUSAFE WIESBADEN IMMEDIATE  
DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII IMMEDIATE 0325  
CINCMAC SCOTT AFB IMMEDIATE  
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0274  
SAC OFFUTT NEBRASKA IMMEDIATE  
REDCOM MCDILL AFB FLORIDA IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
USICA WASHDC PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE PRIORITY  
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY  
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BANGUI PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 125218

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG

SUBJECT: SHABA SITREP NO. 5 AS OF 1000 HOURS GMT, MAY 17

1. FOLLOWING IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND FOR DISCREET USE  
IN DISCUSSIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

2. STATUS OF AMERICANS. CIS, MORRISON-KNUDSEN'S ZAIRIAN  
OPERATION, CARRIED OUT THE EVACUATION OF ITS EMPLOYEES  
AND DEPENDENTS FROM ITS BASE CAMP ON THE FRINGES OF KOLWEZI  
EARLY THIS MORNING. THE 12 DEPENDENTS WERE LIFTED OUT  
BY HELICOPTER AND FLOWN TO MUSONOI, 86 KILOMETERS TO THE  
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NORTHWEST, WHERE THEY WILL BE AIRLIFTED TO KANANGA. FORTY-  
FIVE EMPLOYEES WERE EVACUATED BY HELICOPTER-ESCORTED TRUCK  
CONVOY, WHICH AS OF 0500 EDT WAS HALFWAY BETWEEN KOLWEZI  
AND MUSONONI. TWO ELECTED TO REMAIN TEMPORARILY AT THE  
KOLWEZI BASE CAMP. IN CASE OF A ROADBLOCK, CIS PLANS TO  
TRUCK THE EVACUEES AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, THEN LOAD THEM INTO  
AN ACCOMPANYING HELICOPTER WHICH WOULD BYPASS THE ROAD-  
BLOCK. THE EVACUATION TOOK PLACE WITHOUT INCIDENT. THE  
EVACUEES ARE BEING CAUTIONED TO USE DISCRETION IN DIS-  
CUSSING PUBLICLY THE KOLWEZI SITUATION OR THEIR EVACUA-  
TION IN ORDER NOT TO JEOPARDIZE THE MORALE AND SAFETY OF  
THE AMERICANS AND OTHER EXPATRIATES STILL THERE. THERE  
HAVE BEEN NO FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WITH REGARD TO THE 14

AMERICANS STILL IN THE CITY OF KOLWEZI.

3. MILITARY SITUATION. CIS HAS TOLD OUR EMBASSY THAT  
KOLWEZI HAS BEEN QUIET OVERNIGHT EXCEPT FOR SOME SCAT-  
TERED GUNFIRE. ONLY SKETCHY INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE  
ON THE STATUS OF THE ZAIRIAN ARMED FORCES (FAZ) PARA-  
TROOP OPERATION IN KOLWEZI. AS FAR AS THE EMBASSY  
KNOWS, THE FAZ HAVE NOT YET RETAKEN KOLWEZI AIRPORT.

THE SITUATION AS TO CONTROL OF MAJOR AREAS OF THE CITY  
IS UNCLEAR. THE FAZ HAVE ISSUED LITTLE INFORMATION  
ON THE BATTLEFIELD SITUATION IN THE LAST 12-15 HOURS.

THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT FROM DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES IN  
KINSHASA IS THAT IF THE FAZ SUCCESSFULLY RETAKE KOLWEZI  
THE BELGIAN AND FRANCE EXPATRIATES THERE WILL FOR THE  
MOST PART CHOOSE TO STAY.

VANCE

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:AF/KC Brill

APPROVED BY:AF/WBEDMONDSON

-----030504 190529Z /10

P 190515Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 125218

FOR DAS HARROP

FOL STATE 125218 SENT ACTION KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI BRUSSELS PARIS  
ROME LUSAKA LISBON SECDEF USCINCEUR CINCLANT CINCUSAFE DIA  
CINCPAC CINCMAC SCOTT AFB JCS SAC REDCOM MCDILL AFB USUN USICA  
BRAZZAVILLE HAVANA RABAT LIBREVILLE NAIROBI ACCRA MOSCOW  
JIDDA MONROVIA LAGOS ABIDJAN KHARTOUM CAIRO NIAMEY YAOUNDE  
USNATO LOME DAR ES SALAAM BANGUI BUJUMBURA KIGALI MAY 17, 1978  
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SITREP, COUNTERINSURGENCY, EVACUATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE125218  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2661350  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SHABA SITREP NO. 5 AS OF 1000 HOURS GMT, MAY 17  
**TAGS:** MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG  
**To:** KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/aae6b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014